

NEW BOOKS.

Continued from Second Page.

The character provides under which the city is ruled. Mr. Bruce shows some of the scientific methods. His work is valuable to municipal officers and for that matter to others who have the courage to contemplate the intricacies of city administration. William Shepperson of the staff of the Bureau of Municipal Research helped in collecting the data and in preparing the tables and charts.

"Where Socialism Failed" is the title of a spirited narrative of William Lane's socialist colony in Paraguay. The book is by Stewart Graham. It is an English importation brought here by McBride, Nast and Company. Mr. Graham tells the story of the migration of Lane's party of Australian socialists to Paraguay, where they were free to practice their theories. He paints a sorry picture of conditions under the socialist regime, and then in contrast shows what the colony did after the socialist programme was abandoned. The book is entertaining, but as an anti-socialist tract it is open to the charge which can be made against all arguments based upon isolated instances.

Travels in Many Lands.

A delightful journey made in the right way is described in Paul Gwynne's "Along Spain's River of Romances" (McBride, Nast and Company, New York). The author hired mules, secured a picturesque person as his attendant, and made for the headwaters of the Guadaluquivir, whose course he followed to the sea. He gives bits of description and bits of history, but he finds more interest in the people he meets and understands. The book, therefore, is an account of the people and customs of Spain and more particularly of Andalusia. It is a very full personal narrative, the information being given in explanation of things that happen or come the author's way. He knows his Spain well and shares his knowledge with his reader. The book derives no little aid from the many pictures; the artist's name should have been mentioned somewhere. Genuine and enjoyable books of travel are not common nowadays.

The name of E. V. Lucas appears now and then again. He is frequently that of Andrew Lang. He is a very pleasant, he makes no parade of erudition, he is a capital travelling companion, and is able to make even a guide book interesting. That is what "A Wanderer in Florence" (Macmillan) is, and Florence is so full of things to see that Mr. Lucas is obliged to stick pretty close to his text. Here he has written with some intelligence one of the most satisfactory guides we have seen. A description that can be read continuously, with pleasure, by those who have not seen Florence, and that gives helpful information about history, literature, art and topography to the visitor on the spot. The illustrations are good in their way, but they are subjected to a severe test by their proximity to the photographs of masterpieces.

An archaeological perusal of the African domains of Carthage has been made by Cyril Fisher Grant and E. Grant in "African Shores of the Mediterranean" (McBride, Nast and Company), a volume of unusual topographical beauty that does credit to the Bantam Press in Edinburgh. In the first part the historical element preponderates. The authors manage to give a fairly comprehensive account of the history of antiquity based on the archaeological discoveries. It is, however, somewhat owing to its being divided according to the sites visited. The later history down to the suppression of the Barbary pirates is also told fragmentarily; the authors tell about Lord Exmouth, but have no word to say about the Americans who went before. The second part is devoted to rather haphazard impressions of travel. The style of the authors has great distinction, the things they treat of are interesting, but lack of system in the arrangement makes the book a hard one to read. The pictures are beautiful.

The route of the Israelites from Egypt to Palestine is traced by the Rev. Dr. Franklin E. Holsinger in "The Exodus" (The Sunday School Times Company, Philadelphia). The author travelled all over the intervening territory, particularly in the Sinai peninsula; he has spent thirty years in Syria and has studied the whole literature on the subject of the exodus. In this volume he follows the Jews step by step, explaining the different views about each problem and giving his reasons for preferring those he accepts. He has written an interesting and serviceable summary of an important disputed historical question.

It is with an architect's interest that Herbert A. Evans describes the "Castles of England and Wales" (Houghton and Company, George H. Doran Company), of each he gives an excellent photographic view and an accurate ground plan. The number he describes is thirty-three and for each the description involves a lot of history and of romance, for they are all over the land and are all of the periods that precede prose and political history. For those who will want them up the castles offer as much interest as the cathedrals.

With all Europe to choose from there could be no difficulty for Albert B. Osborne to select fifteen places for his "Fifteen Towns of Europe" (McBride, Nast and Company). They are situated in ten different countries and they have in common the picturesque quality that appealed to the author. Some are thoroughly well known places and of them the author can say little that is new or of import; others, less known, the author by some chance came across. The book hardly holds together, for picturesque is an absolutely vague term that defines nothing. It will be admitted that all the towns Mr. Osborne describes and photographs are picturesque; so are hundreds of others to the eyes that will see them right.

As far from civilization as is now possible is the scene described by Hubert Foster in "New Rivers of the North" (Gutting Publishing Company). The author and a comrade started from Edmonton, crossed the mountains, travelled down the Fraser River and then part way down the Peace River, making their way back to the starting point. They made a toilsome excursion to the Hay River and saw the remarkable "Foster's" (New Rivers of the North) (Gutting Publishing Company). The author and a comrade started from Edmonton, crossed the mountains, travelled down the Fraser River and then part way down the Peace River, making their way back to the starting point. They made a toilsome excursion to the Hay River and saw the remarkable "Foster's" (New Rivers of the North) (Gutting Publishing Company).

and Company), except that he followed the Athabasca River instead of the Peace, which narrows his range. This too is an out of door book, but the story is told with less consciousness. The author is full of the importance of the country and of the railroad enterprise that is opening it up. We regret that the author does not give a fuller account of his trip down the Fraser and to Fort Rupert. He writes an interesting book and seems to share strongly the enthusiasm over the impending development of the country.

A compact statistical account of the resources of Brazil and of conditions in that country by J. C. Oakenfull appears in a third edition, under the title "Brazil in 1911" (Butler and Tanner, London). The little book is illustrated from photographs. The author has a clear idea of the sort of information that is needed, as the subdivisions of his book show. He trusts that in time he will be able to supply more specific statements about many of the points that he prepares for in this edition.

The countries described by E. Alexander Powell in "The Last Frontier" (Charles Scribner's Sons) are, in spite of the pompous preface, all tolerably well known to many travellers. The African lands on the Mediterranean, which fill half the volume, come within the range of the tourist agencies. South Africa is as open as Australia; Zanzibar and German East Africa are somewhat more remote. All of these the author writes impressionistic sketches with much sage reflection on their resources and future. He discovers so many things which others have told about before that the reader may feel inclined to take his political prognostications with a grain of salt. He has visited some rarely visited African islands; what Crete has to do with it we cannot make out.

Late in the day T. R. Sullivan with his pen and Lester G. Hornby with his pencil have undertaken to perpetuate the Boston that is gone in "Boston, Old and New" (Houghton Mifflin Company), a very pretty book. They should have set about their task a quarter of a century ago. As it is, Mr. Sullivan writes pleasant reminiscences and descriptions with a light touch, going back as far as he knows with a little help from books. Of the Boston before the civil war and in the horse car days he can have no memories. Mr. Hornby has drawn daintily a Boston of the picturesque sort, but his attitude of phoric awe with just enough of famous buildings to give his pictures a place and a name. He has caught the poetic moods of the Boston of to-day. Everywhere, however, modern intrusions jar on the Bostonian of fifty years, even in the views of Louisburg Square and of the Parker House. It is a book for the modern Bostonian and for strangers alone; they will feel the fascination without the regrets.

Informing the Youthful Mind.

That Harry E. Maule understands what is engaging the attention of boys nowadays is manifest from the contents of "The Boy's Book of Inventions" (Doubleday, Page and Company). A third of the book is taken up with aeroplanes; the next largest sections are devoted to moving pictures and wireless telegraphy. Of matters further removed from youthful experiment he describes the Edison concrete house, the thermoplastic process and some of Tesla's latest ventures, and he touches briefly also on other important inventions.

In the line of practical information that may guide busy little fingers come two books from the Frederick A. Stokes Company. "Girls' Make at Home Things" by Caroline Sherwin Bailey alone, and "Boys' Make at Home Things" in which that lady is assisted by Marian Elizabeth Bailey. The former tells how dolls may be constructed, their houses furnished, how to make useful and ornamental things, either for gifts or for the manufacture of their own pleasures. The latter gives instruction in the use of simple tools and shows many interesting things an industrious boy can make with them.

To the same category belong two little books published by Duffield and Company. "Housekeeping for Little Girls" by Olive Hyde Foster, in which dusting and making beds have as much importance as the elements of plain cooking, and "Work and Play for Little Girls" by Hedwig Levi, which tells them how to make many ingenious little things at little cost that may be used for presents or to decorate Christmas trees. The variety of objects that may be made with discarded match boxes is amazing.

Though put in story form it is the imparting of information about trees and their habits that inspires Alice Lounsberry in "Frank and Bessie's Forester" (Frederick A. Stokes Company). There is story enough to float easily the solid chunks of woodwork that drop from the forester's lips. Alice put in story form the account of lumbering operations given by Sara Ware Bassett (The Penn Publishing Company, Philadelphia). The illustrations to this by Elizabeth Otis are very good.

It is for a child's book that we take Joyce Kilmer's "Stories from Old English Romance" (Frederick A. Stokes Company), though the author may have had pedagogical intentions in putting the book together. The greater number of extracts is drawn from early English poems that need to be translated; but there are a few samples of later fables, such as the Robin Hood ballads and Malory's "Morte d'Arthur". It is a well done bit of work, which makes a capital story book.

There is history too for the young in various forms. "A History of France," by H. E. Marshall (Hodder and Stoughton; George H. Doran Company), is a formidable quarto, mitigated by very wide margins and colored pictures. It narrates formally the main events in French history, the education of British children. In "The Heroes and Heroines of English History" by Alice S. Hoffman (Ernest Nister; E. P. Dutton and Company), the history is put in the form of biography. The illustrations by Gordon Browne are pretty good. The heroines are Boadicea, Joan of Arc, Queen Elizabeth and Florence Nightingale. Brief stories simplified for the use of children are retold by Edward Leigh Fell in three little volumes published by the Fleming H. Revell

Company. "The Story of Jesus," "The Story of Joseph the Dreamer" and "The Story of David." The more cumbersome mechanism of the Rollo stories is employed by Margaret Williamson to convey historical and descriptive information in "John and Betty's Scotch History Visit," a candid but rather dithering little (Lothrop, Lee and Shepard Company, Boston).

A charming description of child life in Japan, illustrated with drawings that are as delightful as the text, will be found in Lucy Pitch Perkins' "The Japanese Twins" (Houghton Mifflin Company). It fulfills the requirements of a nursery story book and is at the same time a contribution to ethnography. It will be amusing to read it at the same time with Mr. Markin's autobiography, published by the same house.

Hiding in the form of fairy tales the teaching of science are carefully inculcated into youth by Thornton W. Burgess in "Mother West Wind's Animal Friends" (Little, Brown and Company), where accurate information about natural history is imparted at every turn. The sugaring is much thinner in the geological text book which Mary Earle Hardy calls "The Little King and the Princess True" (Hond, McNally and Company); it might just as well have been left off.

Books for the Little Ones.

To begin with the fairy books, Anatole France's pretty story "Abel" has been translated anew by Peter Wright under the title "Bee, Princess of the Dwarfs," illustrated with many delightful and artistic colored pictures of Charles Robinson, and published by J. M. Dent and Sons with the typographical distinction that marks their books. It makes one of the prettiest of Christmas presents.

With "The Fire-Tree Fairy Book" (Little, Brown and Company) the humanitarian crusade against the horrors of the nursery is kept up by Clifford Johnson. Ostensibly many old favorites appear in the book, but savagery, distressing details and excessive pathos have been dropped, and the books can be placed in the hands of children with entire confidence. According to Mr. Johnson "we can well spare most of the spectacles of falsehood, gluttony, drunkenness, torture and gore that are found in the usual tellings, and we can get along without the cruel fathers and the wicked stepmothers." The ethical culture of babies is thus assured by free use of the spinning book. The illustrations by Alexander Poplin are good, though the glaring backgrounds are rather startling.

The ten stories contained in "Told in the Twilight" (The Platt & Peck Company) are drawn from various sources; some are very old favorites. The pictures are suitable. The "Bedtime Stories of Make-Believe Land," by Jean Gwynne, Knickerbocker and Cousin Kernahan, published by the same house, are mainly allegorical, as modern fairy tales are apt to be; the shorter ones are poetic meditations with a touch of mournfulness.

The children in Gertrude Knevels' "The Wonderful Bed" (The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis) follow the example of Peter Pan's little friends in venturing into space and meet with many amazing adventures. All they wake up. The pictures by Emily Hall Chamberlin are remarkably good. This year's journey into the unknown by Josephine Scribner Gates, "The Live Dolls in Wonderland" (The Bobbs-Merrill Company), will be followed with equal interest by the eager readers of the earlier books of the series.

Animals stories of the "Temus" kind, not of the "natural history books" are related to a very attractive small boy and others in "Next Night Stories," by Clarence Johnson Messer (Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Company, Boston). The grownup love story brought in is harmless; it serves to bring out some amusing remarks from the little ones. The stories told will interest children.

China described by a man who has lived there fifty years, "Illustrated," \$3.50 net. Postpaid, \$3.69.

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Whether intended for children or not the four short stories included in John Kendrick Bangs' "A Little Book of Christmas" (Little, Brown and Company) all deal with children and with the ideas of Christmas that are usually attributed to them. The mild form of humor employed by the author is well suited to the stories and will be appreciated by young readers. The colored pictures by Arthur E. Becker are vigorous.

One of the most charming children's books ever gotten up, the collection of old French songs with their tunes, with the wonderful illustrations by Boutet de Monvel, which appeared in the forty years ago in France, has now been adapted in a way for English speaking children, at a slightly reduced price, in "Old Songs and Rhymes" (Duffield and Company). The French plates with the colored pictures are left un-

changed; to them, however, are presented translations of the verses, whose author is mercifully not mentioned, with appropriate decorative borders. It makes a very pretty Christmas gift that children will appreciate.

Single stories from Nathaniel Hawthorne's "Wonder Book" are printed separately in pretty little volumes with colored pictures by the Houghton Mifflin Company. The two which have come to us are "The Golden Touch" and "The Gorgon's Head."

Two picture books will do for the little ones who cannot read yet. The pictures of "The Kewpie and Doty Darling," by Rose O'Neill (George H. Doran Company), which remind us in a way of G. Burgess' "Goops," are amusing and ingenious; the verses are unfortunately of less importance, but they will pass muster. The other is Fisher Wright's illustrations in color for "Jolly Mother Goose Annual" (Rand, McNally and Company, Chicago) are very pretty. The text, we regret to say, differs often from the standard version.

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addition to the estimable "Heroes of the Nations" series. It is the work of Lawrence Marcellus Larson, associate professor of history in the University of Illinois. The reader feels a genuine scholarliness, both in the English which Dr. Larson uses in transcribing his sources and in the comprehensive setting which he gives to his subject. Canute is regarded at once as the product and the flower of the viking movement, which in its turn is explained in terms of religious unrest and of the conflicting personalities of its great men and women. Dr. Larson is no dry as dust historian, but he emphasizes with a very convincing touch the human background of dramatic events. A new and interesting comment in the book is the picture of Canute's amazement when he found by the very measure of

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